

Vote Loz Kaye



Manchester Central

LGBT Manifesto



PIRATE PARTY UK

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On behalf of Loz Kaye Apt 47, Block A, Albion Mill, Pollard St, Manchester, M4 7AJ

LGBT Manifesto

The right for all to **take part equally in our society** and culture is at the very heart of Pirate Party politics. The LGBT community has worked tirelessly and has achieved a lot over the last few decades through political activism, protest and good humour and I am proud to have been part of that. However, there is still a long way to go before we can all truly, equally, share in this society. That is why an LGBT manifesto is still needed.

The coalition has promised action on equal marriage and **we must hold them to it**. We cannot allow progress to be delayed or be told that it is no longer a priority. **Equal marriage must mean exactly that**. The law must be changed to give full equality to all couples regardless of gender; allowing the marriage of same sex couples and registering of civil partnerships for mixed sex couples. The already broad range of religious groups that want to marry same sex couples should be allowed to do so. The current requirement for transgender people to divorce before they can attain gender recognition must also be scrapped.

The law has to recognise that families come in many forms.

It is time for a more inclusive and flexible parental leave regime; **one which acknowledges everyone's rights**. When we bring up children we all need the flexibility to be good parents and obviously this includes LGBT people too.

✓ Equality

✓ Equal Marriage

✓ Support LGBT Families

✓ Parental Leave

The ability to care for our loved ones should be life long. The civil partnership act does not offer full equality in pensions for same sex couples, **all pension schemes must recognise same sex couples**, and provide what pensioners need.

As we eradicate prejudice in the legal system, we should work to do the same in schools, not by criminalising offence, but by **ensuring that schools have strategies in place to tackle homophobic bullying** and information and support is available for anyone who needs it.

✓ LGBT Health

✓ End the Blood Ban

✓ Beating Transphobia

✓ Data Protection

✓ LGBT Sports

LGBT people face multiple serious health challenges. I want to follow the lead of countries like Norway that have comprehensive LGBT public health plans with clear goals. I want to help **end the stigma around HIV/AIDS** and want to see a national campaign launched to normalise **HIV testing as a routine part of caring for our health**. Restrictions on blood donations from men who have sex with men should be lifted, the focus must be on individual screening and making sure as many people as possible can donate blood and save lives.

LGBT rights have an international element too. The UK can **press for equal recognition of civil partnerships and same sex marriage across borders**, both in the EU and internationally. LGBT rights must be part of our relations with other countries, whether they are our allies or not. Our principles should be clear in our interactions with the world.

It is time to stop practises which make life hard for LGBT people and take on transphobia head on. **Official forms often impose highly intrusive and burdensome requirements for personal information**. We can start by removing unnecessary fields in documents and not gathering gender and sexuality data where it serves no purpose.

Councils and other official bodies have a duty to and must protect our information, for our safety and privacy. Recently, Islington Council revealed information about residents' sexuality in a "data blunder". We must ensure higher standards for data protection, especially when they hold such personal data. Government plans for a "snoopers' charter", monitoring who we contact, put LGBT people at risk for this very reason. **It is no business of the coalition's if you are contacting someone by Gaydar, Grindr or Recon.**

LGBT people have a right to take advantage of our shared cultural, media and sporting life without harassment. We ought to **remove any barriers that prevent LGBT participation in sport at all levels**. Sporting bodies should be actively working to create a culture where it is possible for more LGBT professional athletes to come out and act as role models. We can all benefit from this, bringing a high profile event like OutGames to Manchester leave a great, positive legacy for LGBT sport and Manchester. We are not only more than capable of hosting such an event, we could do it exceptionally well.

manchester.pirateparty.org.uk





More About Loz Kaye



✓ Loz Kaye

Loz Kaye first became interested in politics **campaigning against Section 28** and the unequal age of consent. This started his passion for working for civil liberties.

He took over leadership of the Pirate party in 2010 . Since then he has become a sought after expert on open society and the power of technology to transform people's lives. He has appeared on BBC, CNN, Russia Today and has written for the Guardian. **He speaks regularly on Pirate Party politics** – from the Future Everything Conference in Manchester to events in Brussels and Dublin.

Loz has worked as a **teacher, higher education lecturer and musician**. In education he has worked with a wide variety of students, from GCSE and University to care homes and learning disabled groups. **He runs his own business creating and recording music for national and international markets.**

The Pirate Party UK is a democratic political party built on grassroots support and the work of volunteers. It stands for Digital Rights, Civil Liberties and a politics fit for the 21st Century. The party has no parallel in British politics, wholly transparent to the public, accountable to our members and **not dependent on external groups for our funding or direction.**

If you want to **help Loz in Manchester**, simply get in touch by email (manchester@pirateparty.org.uk) or on the phone (**0161 987 5944**). We need your help to run a successful campaign and to bring our ideas to as many people as possible. You can also help by joining the party or donating.

For more information about the Pirate Party UK please take a look at www.pirateparty.org.uk.

About The Pirate Party



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Vote For Loz Kaye in Manchester